

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and announce a public hearing on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the construction of a dam and reservoir on Cobbs Creek in Cumberland County and the construction and operation of a water withdrawal intake on the James River in Cumberland County,

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Through 5:00 PM on September 12, 2007

PUBLIC HEARING: Cumberland County Elementary School, 60 School Road, Cumberland Virginia, 23040 on August 28, 2007 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. In addition, DEQ staff will conduct an informational briefing on this proposed permit action at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited to hear a brief explanation of the draft permit and questions are welcomed.

PURPOSE OF HEARING: To obtain input from the public related to this project for the DEQ to consider.

PERMIT NAME AND NUMBER: Virginia Water Protection Permit (VWPP) Number 07-1542 drafted by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: Cumberland County, P.O. Box 110, Cumberland, Virginia 23040

NAME AND LOCATION OF FACILITY: Cobb Creek Reservoir on Cobbs Creek, northwest of Columbia Road, and an intake on the James River, about 1.7 miles upstream of the Columbia Bridge

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Cumberland County has applied for a new permit for the Cobbs Creek Reservoir project in Cumberland County, on Cobbs Creek in the northwestern quadrant of the County, west and north of Columbia Road and southwest of the Town of Columbia. The permit will allow the applicant to build a 140-foot tall dam across Cobbs Creek which will in turn create a 1,107 acre lake. The permit will also allow the applicant to build an infiltration bed intake structure on the James River and withdraw up to a maximum of 150 million gallons of water per day from the James River subject to minimum instream flowby rules. The proposed activity will result in the filling or flooding of 32.1 acres of wetlands and 15.16 miles of stream.

ISSUES RAISED BY PUBLIC: The previous public comment period was from through May 13, 2007 to June 15, 2007. The comments received pertained to the adequacy of the draft permit conditions with regard to instream flow conditions, the need for the project and the frequency and durations of the drawdown.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and must be received by DEQ during the comment period. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at public hearings. To make a statement at a public hearing, write your name on a sign-up sheet available before the hearing. You may sign up only for yourself. The time allowed for each statement is set by the hearing officer. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named below.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Joseph Hassell; Division of Water Resources, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia, 23218; Phone: 804-698-4072; E-mail: jphassell@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: 804-698-4347.